

ANOTHER FRIGHT AT CHARLESTOWN.

THE VIRGINIANS IN DISTRESS.

A PAINFUL RUMOR.

Old John Brown to be Rescued.

SOLDIERS AND CANNON SENT FOR.

ALEXANDRIA, RICHMOND AND CHARLESTOWN IN ARMS.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Nov. 17, 1893.

The Richmond Dispatch states that Edward Moffit, who was arrested at Lynchburg as a suspected participant in Brown's foray, has been released for want of evidence.

Identifying parties are to proceed to Wytheville for the purpose of examining another suspected fugitive.

Several suspected persons, mostly Northern peddlers, have been recently arrested at Culpeper Court House, and there appears to be an intention to place in confinement all who do not give a good account of themselves.

RICHMOND, Thursday, Nov. 17—Evening.

The military here are under arms, and ready to march at a moment's warning, in consequence of reports from Charlestown of an intended rescue of Brown.

ALEXANDRIA, Thursday, Nov. 17—Evening.

There is great excitement here in consequence of a rumor of the rescue of Brown, and the volunteer militia are assembling at their armories.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Nov. 17, 1893.

Such a rumor as is noted in the foregoing dispatches was circulated here to-day, but fell ill-born.

BALTIMORE, Thursday, Nov. 17, 1893.

A dispatch from Col. Davis at Charlestown to Gov. Wise this evening, stating the dispatch there of two companies of cavalry, equated that five bars and outposts have been fired to-day, it is supposed by sympathizers with Brown.

Dispatches have been received in Richmond, which have caused the authorities there to take prompt action.

Three hundred men and two pieces of artillery leave Alexandria at daylight by Gov. Wise's orders. The Richmond forces will probably leave in an express train at an early hour.

BALTIMORE, Thursday, Nov. 17—11 p. m.

There are rumors at Harper's Ferry that two hundred and fifty men, armed with rifles, are encamped at Berryville, near Charlestown, meditating a rescue. Of course the report is too improbable for belief.

The operator at Harper's Ferry says that a messenger has been sent to Charlestown to obtain reliable information, but has not yet returned. There is great excitement at the Ferry, and armed guards are patrolling the streets and roads.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 18—1:30 p. m.

The messenger has not yet returned to Harper's Ferry. He left at 10 o'clock, and was to have been back in two and a half hours. He is probably detained by some of the guards.

SAFETY OF THE NORTH STAR.

By the following dispatch, it will be seen that the Vanderbilt steamship North Star has been heard from, and that the vessel and passengers are safe.

This grateful intelligence relieves the painful suspense, and the intense feeling of apprehension for the safety of those on board, which have prevailed in the public mind for some days past, and will cause a thrill of joy in hundreds of households, whose happiness was bound up in the fate of her passengers and crew.

The following is a copy of the glad tidings which the telegraph brought on Thursday morning:

"CHARLESTOWN, Thursday, Nov. 17, 1893.

A letter to The Charleston Courier, dated Nassau, New-Province, Nov. 9, states that the steamer North Star, from New-York for Aspinwall, got ashore about the 25th of October, on French Keys, and remained on the Keys six or seven days, but finally got off without extra assistance by throwing over some coal, and with loss of anchors, and proceeded on her voyage on the 31st inst."

The Phantas, or French Keys, where the steamship North Star got on shore on her passage from this port to Aspinwall, are two Keys of the Marianna Passage, on the route to Aspinwall, and nineteen miles west of the west end of Marianna, one of the most northern of the Bahama Islands. This is the passage used by sailing vessels outward bound, and by steamers on their passages to and from Aspinwall.

The Chamber of Commerce, at its last meeting, agreed to memorialize the President of the United States to apply to the British Government, to which the Island and adjacent Keys belong, to erect a light-house there. The amount of property yearly passing these keys is estimated at \$150,000,000, and the necessity of a light-house at that point has been fully demonstrated by the fate of the North Star.

The following is a correct summary of the number of persons on board the steamer:

Whole number of passengers in first and second cabin and steerage.....600

United States citizens, mariners and sailors.....112

Officers and crew of the ship.....70

Total.....782

From the Rio Grande.

NEW-ORLEANS, Thursday, Nov. 17, 1893.

A gentleman who has arrived here from Brownsville 4th inst., reports to The True Delta that no attack had then been made by Cortinas, but one was hourly expected.

Commutation of Capt. Holmes' Sentence.

PORTLAND, Me., Thursday, Nov. 17, 1893.

The President's commutation of Capt. Holmes' sentence arrived to-day. His sentence is commuted from death to hard labor in the State Prison for life.

Trial of Slavers.

SAVANNAH, Thursday, Nov. 16, 1893.

In the case of Brown, Ragsdale and Agnew, charged with importing slaves on the yacht Wanderer, a Jury has been impaneled in the Federal Court, and the evidence commenced.

Weather Report-Ship News.

MONTREAL, Thursday, Nov. 17, 1893.

Weather mild; thermometer at 8 a. m., 38° above zero.

Schooner William Pearson, of Sandusky, arrived from Liverpool yesterday, in 68 days.

The India-Rubber Cases at the South.

HORACE H. DAY AGT. ROBERT ADGER & CO.

CHARLESTOWN, Wednesday, Nov. 16, 1893.

The Hon. A. G. Magrath, Judge of the United States Court for the District of South Carolina, delivered his decision to-day in the India-rubber case of Horace H. Day of New-York agt. Robert Adger & Co. of this city, and decreed the complainants, in default of defendants giving a bond in a limited time, an injunction, restraining the defendants from making, using or vending any article or corrugated elastic India rubber goods containing vulcanized rubber, whether they be cemented, woven, braided, sewed, or otherwise made. The defendant is the largest dry goods house in the city.

The defendant is the largest dry goods house in the city, and the case has been on argument since Friday of last week. Whaley and Rutledge of this city, and W. J. A. Fuller of New-York, appeared for Mr. Day; and Edmund McCready of this city for the defendants.

JOHN BROWN'S INVASION.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

CHARLESTOWN, Tuesday, Nov. 15, 1893.

OTHER TROUBLES.

CAPTAIN AVIS.

The master of the jail at Charlestown is the most humane and many of the inhabitants. He rises above the mean and vindictive spirit which seems to influence most of his townsmen. He never joins the crowd of agitators that fill the thoroughfares with noisy clamor. He never incites violence, nor does he ever manifest that timorous apprehension as to strangers which very few beside him are insensible to. His courage is beyond question—John Brown himself has testified to it over and over again—and the knowledge of this adds to the effect which his unswerving contempt of the mad tumult around him produces. Himself a brave man, he respects bravery in others; and he does not hesitate to avow that he never saw in another such dauntless fortitude as he has seen in Brown. Captain Avis is no later of Brown. He alone, of all Virginians, is fond of him. Constant association for weeks has taught him that with all the old man's rash and criminal folly, there is in him which it will not do to sneer at or define. Viewing all the circumstances, his indulgent treatment of Brown is amazing. The people cannot understand it. They call the jailor to frequent account. They renege, they threaten him. I have heard intentions announced of mobbing the jail.

Captain Avis does not laugh, or show defiance in any way, but he says, with the utmost tranquillity, "Well, gentlemen, whatever Captain Brown wants, that I can help him to, he shall have. I am jailor, you know." Even the orders of the Sheriff, who possesses the right to dictate the manner in which the jail affairs shall be conducted, have been quietly set aside, when his mandates have been likely to interfere with Brown's comfort. Visitors from the North, whom the Sheriff has squarely prohibited from encountering Brown, have been unhesitatingly admitted by Avis, when the prisoner has made known his desire to see them. It is curious to witness the attachment that appears to have arisen between this fine-hearted officer and the convict at whom all the rest of Virginia discharges fondest abuse. Avis is not only thoughtful of Brown's welfare while he lives, but seeks to aid him in the appropriate disposition of his effects after he is dead. He denounces, with unusual earnestness for him, the plundering of Brown's property by the Harper's Ferry populace. He gives attention to the collection of as many of his weapons as have come within his reach, in order that they may be ultimately sold for the benefit of Brown's family. And yet, with all his good-will for his prisoner, it is impossible not to perceive the impenetrable integrity of his nature. What he conceives to be his duty, he will never shrink to perform. He sees no cause to feel fresh sorrows on an already humbled and gloomed man, as many of his fellow-citizens would be too glad to do, had they his opportunities; but he would not stop to think twice before putting all his prisoners to death with his own hand, were he convinced of any real reason to anticipate a new invasion, or an attempt at rescue. He is the worthiest of his people—as true to his station as sensitive to the claims of humanity. Capt. Avis is a stout and rather short middle-aged man, of a really comical turn of countenance, notwithstanding his unvarying seriousness of expression. He has a most mild and amiable face. Sometimes, in conversation, he says sharp and clever things, often directed against the wretched tremors which deaden all the faculties of his townfolk. "I never saw him forsake his equanimity but once, and that was after Mrs. Spring had been permitted to see Brown in his cell, and the street-strollers were holding court in front of the Jail concerning the propriety of breaking in and tending away that contumacious stranger."

When Old Brown dies, there may be many more vehement in the utterance of grief, but I believe there will be few sincerer mourners than Capt. Avis.

LIEUT. GREEN.

This was the gentleman who led the company of marines in the final successful attack on the engine-house in which Brown and his party had secured themselves. His appearance gives little evidence of extreme bravery, and I do not think that the record of his deeds proves courage. He is rather unadorned, but strongly and compactly built. His eyes are dull, and his countenance almost expressionless. It is true that he was among the first to confront the invaders; but it is also true that he completely lost control of himself when in their presence, and dashed about at random with wildest fierceness, and did not cease his blows until long after his opponents were subdued. In a copy of a Cincinnati paper, The Commercial, which has to-day come here, I find the question asked whether Brown was struck after he had been beaten down and vanquished. In that relation, let me give a bit of the testimony of Lieut. Green himself, during the trial of Corporal, which I perfectly remember. The questions and answers run thus:

Mr. SENNOTT—"You say that when Brown was down you struck him in the face with your saber?"

Lieut. GREEN—"Yes, Sir."

Mr. SENNOTT—"This was after he was down?"

Lieut. GREEN—"Yes, Sir; he was down."

Mr. SENNOTT—"How many times, Lieut. Green, did you strike Brown in the face with your saber after he was down?"

Lieut. GREEN—"Why, Sir, he was defending himself with his gun."

Mr. HUNTER—"I hope the counsel for the defense will not press such questions as these."

Mr. SENNOTT—"Very well, Sir."

Lieut. Green has the air of being just the person who would be with difficulty roused to energetic action, but who, when at last thoroughly excited, might naturally thus lose command of himself, and allow no limits to his ferocity.

COL. LEWIS A. WASHINGTON.

Col. Washington is the gentleman who received the first intimations of Brown's midnight embassage. He has consequently been the most prominent of the Government witnesses during all the trials. I am moved to say a word in defense of his dignified bearing and his comeliness, on account of the rather rough treatment he has received at the hands of the illustrations. Col. Washington is a very handsome man, of medium size, athletic frame, and a countenance marked by many of the distinguishing characteristics which we find in the Trumbull portraits of his great namesake. It is curious to see in these days, when the personality of Washington has become almost mythical, his nearest living relative, bearing his name and his features, walking around among us, just like ordinary people who claim no such enormous superiority of lineage. Col. Washington is given to luxuries of raiment, and starts the community every other day or so, by elegant varieties of costume.

The town is becoming quiet. The last emissary of the North, Mr. Sennott, has departed, and the people rest freely. If affairs go on long in this dull way, I may as well repeat also. Mr. Sennott took with him copies of the records for the Court of Appeals, which he had waited to complete, and notes from Brown and Stephens, signifying their trust in his management of their cases, and confiding everything to his judgment. Here is the Stephens document—that of Brown is similar, but appropriate to Brown's special circumstances:

CHARLESTOWN, Jefferson Co., Va., Nov. 1, 1893.

To my friends in New-England and elsewhere:

Aaron D. Stephens, one of the prisoners now in confinement with me at this place, is desirous of obtaining the assistance of George Sennott, Esq., of Boston, Mass., in defending him on his trial to come off before the United States Court. Anything you can do toward securing the services of Mr. Sennott for my prisoner, will add to the many obligations of your humble servant,

JOHN BROWN.

The above contains the expression of my own wishes.

A. D. STEPHENS.

—The Hon. Hamilton Fish states that he is not a candidate for the Mayoralty, and cannot be under any circumstances.

VOTE OF THE STATE—[Official.]

ALLEGANT COUNTY—[Official.]

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WASHINGTON CO.—[Official.]

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